

Sixteen fish species are listed as threatened or endangered in Alabama. Most occur in north Alabama rivers and streams. The most significant danger to protected fish from forestry practices is sedimentation that smothers fish eggs and habitat. Pay particular attention to bridge and road construction that might lead to erosion or create fish passage barriers. Leave wide buffer strips adjacent to streams when cutting timber on steep slopes. Avoid spraying pesticides near waterways. The best way to avoid negative impact on fish is to follow closely Alabama's Best Management Practices for Forestry. Below is a list of protected fish and the rivers and streams where they are known to occur. Because many are small and not easily caught, they may also occur in additional streams. Counties listed are where species are known or believed to occur according to the U. S. Fish and Wildlife Service. Species names followed by an asterisk (*) are endangered, all others are threatened.



Slackwater Darter, *Etheostoma boschungii*

SPECIES	KNOWN RIVERS/CREEKS	COUNTIES KNOWN OR BELIEVED TO OCCUR
Pygmy Sculpin <i>Cottus paulus</i>	Coldwater Creek, Coldwater Spring	Calhoun
Blue Shiner <i>Cyprinella caerulea</i>	Little River, Weogufka Creek, Choccolocco Creek, Spring Creek (tributary to Weiss Reservoir)	Calhoun, Cherokee, Clay, Cleburne, Coosa, Dekalb, Talladega
Slackwater Darter <i>Etheostoma boschungii</i>	Cypress Creek, upper Shoal Creek, Swan Creek, and upper Flint River	Lauderdale, Limestone, Madison
Watercress Darter* <i>Etheostoma nuchale</i>	Glenn Springs, Thomas, Roebuck and Tapawingo Springs and their spring runs	Jefferson
Alabama Sturgeon* <i>Scaphirhynchus suttkusi</i>	Alabama River	Autauga, Baldwin, Bibb, Clarke, Dallas, Escambia, Lowndes, Mobile, Monroe, Perry, Washington, Wilcox
Alabama Cavefish* <i>Speoplatyrhinus poulsoni</i>	Key Cave	Colbert, Lauderdale
Spotfin Chub <i>Erimonax monachus</i>	Shoal Creek, Little Bear Creek	Colbert, Lauderdale

Vermillion Darter* <i>Etheostoma chermocki</i>	Turkey Creek and the lower reaches of Dry and Beaver Creek in the watershed of the Locust Fork of the Black Warrior River	Blount and Jefferson
Boulder Darter* <i>Etheostoma wapiti</i>	Elk River and Shoal Creek	Limestone and Lauderdale
Trispot Darter <i>Etheostoma trisella</i>	Little Canoe Creek and tributaries, Ballplay Creek and tributaries	Blount, Calhoun, Cherokee, Etowah, Jefferson, St. Clair
Cahaba Shiner* <i>Notropis cahabae</i>	Cahaba River and Locust Fork of Black Warrior River	Bibb, Blount, Chilton, Etowah, Jefferson, Marshall, Shelby, St. Clair, Tuscaloosa, Walker
Palezone Shiner* <i>Notropis albizonatus</i>	Paint Rock River	Jackson, Madison, Marshall
Goldline Darter <i>Percina aurolineata</i>	Cahaba and Little Cahaba Rivers and Schultz Creek	Bibb, Chilton, Jefferson, Perry, Shelby, Tuscaloosa
Spring Pygmy Sunfish <i>Elassoma alabamae</i>	Beaverdam-Moss Spring/Swamp Complex	Limestone, Madison
Rush Darter* <i>Etheostoma phytophilum</i>	Locust Fork of the upper Black Warrior drainage, Clear Creek (tributary of Sipsey Fork), Turkey Creek, Little Cove Creek	Blount, Cullman, Etowah, Franklin, Jefferson, Lawrence, Marshall, St. Clair, Walker, Winston
Gulf Sturgeon <i>Acipenser oxyrinchus desotoi</i>	Mobile Delta, Mobile River, Alabama River below Claiborne Dam, Tombigbee River below Coffeeville Dam, Conecuh River below Point "A", Yellow River, Perdido River, and Choctawhatchee River	Baldwin, Choctaw, Clarke, Coffee, Conecuh, Covington, Crenshaw, Dale, Escambia, Geneva, Houston, Mobile, Monroe, Washington

Photo and Text Credit: Threatened and Endangered Species of Alabama: A Guide to Assist with Forestry Activities, Second Edition, USFWS



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